

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LOME 01825 171043Z

15
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /027 W
----- 019721

P 161710Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY LOME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1034

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EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC (WILSON, JAMES WILLIAM) TO
SUBJ: DETENTION OF AMERICAN CITIZEN

REF: LOME 1795

1. ON AUGUST 16 DEPUTY GENDARMERIE COMMANDANT CHANGO TOLD CONSOFF THAT NEW UNEXPLAINED DEFICITS HAD BEEN FOUND AT SOCIETE DES DETERGENTS DU TOGO (SODETO), AND THAT GENDARMERIE HAD DECIDED TO REOPEN ITS INVESTIGATION INTO SODENTO'S FINANCES AND JAMES WILSON'S MANAGEMENT OF FIRM. CHANGO AGAIN ASSURED CONSOFF THAT WILSON WAS BEING TREATED AS ANY TOGOLESE ACCUSED OF EMBEZZLEMENT WOULD BE TREATED, AND AGAIN PROMISED EXPEDITE INVESTIGATION SO THAT MINISTER OF JUSTICE CAN DECIDE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WHETHER TO CONTINUE TO DETAIN WILSON.

2. CONSOFF THEN MET WITH WILSON AND LEARNED PLANNING MINISTER KOUDJOLOU DOGO HAD COUNSELED WILSON TO "LIE LOW AND LET DOGO TAKE CARE OF THE MATTER" ONCE WILSON'S DOSSIER IS SENT TO JUSTICE MINISTER FOR A DECISION ON WHETHER TO PROSECUTE. WHEN CONSOFF ADVISED WILSON THAT SENATOR STENNIS' OFFICE APPEARED READY TO ASK EMBASSY TO PROTEST HIS CONTINUING CONFINEMENT, WILSON ASKED THAT EMBASSY NOT REPEAT NOT RAISE MATTER OFFICIALLY WITH TOGOLESE GOVERNMENT. WILSON SAID HE AND EMBASSY MUST BE PATIENT UNTIL AFTER INVESTIGATION IS COMPLETED AND CASE HAS GONE TO JUSTICE MINISTER. IF MINISTER DOGO HAS BEEN UNABLE TO SECURE FAVORABLE DECISION FROM JUSTICE MINISTER WITHIN THREE OR FOUR DAYS AFTER
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JUSTICE RECEIVES HIS CASE, WILSON ASKS THAT EMBASSY THEN

ATTEMPT TO INTERVENE IN HIS BEHALF. WILSON SAID HE IS
PREPARED TO WAIT PATIENTLY UNTIL INVESTIGATION IS COMPLETED,
AND NOTED THAT HE IS NOT CONCERNED AT REOPENING OF INVESTIGATION
BECAUSE HE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH FISCAL YEAR 1976
EXPENDITURES NOW BEING AUDITED. YOUNG

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: powellba
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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